

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SAJ-01 INR-05 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:GHUMPHREY:MB TEXT REC'D F

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S/S - FORTIZ

C - MR. SHINN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OVIP, UR, US, PFOR

SUBJECT:V-E CELEBRATIONS

1. YOU SHOULD CONVEY THE FOLLOWING RESPONSE FROM PRESIDENT FORD TO THE INVITATION BY CHAIRMAN PODGORNYY TO SEND A DELEGATION TO TAKE PART IN THE MOSCOW CELEBRATIONS.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF MARCH 20, 1975, INVITING THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO SEND A DELEGATION TO TAKE PART IN SOVIET OBSERVATIONS MARKING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RESTORATION OF PEACE IN EUROPE.

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE HAVE THE DEEPEST RESPECT FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND SACRIFICES MADE BY THE SOVIET UNION IN
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THE COURSE OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR. OUR COUNTRIES EXPERIENCED THE AGONIES OF WAR AS ALLIES. THE ANNIVERSARY OF OUR WARTIME COOPERATION IS ANOTHER REMINDER OF THE NEED TO WORK TOGETHER TO MAINTAIN THE PEACE. IT IS IN THIS

SPIRIT THAT I AM PLEASED TO ACCEPT YOUR INVITATION TO
SEND A DELEGATION TO THE MOSCOW COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES.

I HAVE ASKED ONE OF OUR MOST DISTINGUISHED AMERICANS,
W. AVERELL HARRIMAN, TO LEAD THE U.S. DELEGATION. HIS

LONG CONNECTION WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND HIS WARTIME
SERVICE IN MOSCOW AS OUR AMBASSADOR SYMBOLIZE THE SIGNI-
FICANCE OF THIS ANNIVERSARY.

I SHARE YOUR BELIEF THAT OUR PARTICIPATION IN THESE COM-
MEMORATIVE CEREMONIES WILL CONTRIBUTE FURTHER TO THE
DEVELOPMENT OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES.

SINCERELY, GERALD R. FORD

HIS EXCELLENCY, N. PODGORNYY, CHAIRMAN OF THE PRESIDUM
OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET, MOSCOW.

APRIL 23, 1975. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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